

### Levees and Planting.

Editor Greenville Times:

The accounts which we see in the papers of the injury from overflow in the counties of Tunica, Coahoma, Sunflower and Leflore, call to mind your able and continued efforts last Spring to induce the dwellers of those unfortunate localities to unite with us in an effort to fight the common enemy upon the river's margin. They refused in almost every county to co-operate with us, and in several, did not even send delegates to our convention. They seemed to regard the high water of '82 as "only a summer shower." In view of the fact that we secured timely and valuable National aid, and of the further fact that our people went to work with indomitable pluck and energy, closed the gaps and strengthened all the weak places, we are not disposed to regret their action at that time. The present high water, however, appears to have effected them almost as seriously as that of last year, and many places are now under which then escaped. As one of the chief organs of the Delta, would it not be well for you again to urge upon them the importance of a general Levee District, composed of all the counties in the Delta? It is probable that the proposition would now be more favorably considered. Even Gov. Alcorn might be inclined to join in the next effort, as he is reported to be "entirely under." The towns of Anstin, Clarksdale, Greenwood and Eureka are all overgrown, and from the latter came a report on Monday that the new Court-house there was about to float away. Do stir them a little upon the importance of making a united defense against the common enemy.

I am gratified to see in the Vicksburg Herald that "one of the exceptions" to the common run of cotton planters has been found. It is rather depressing, however, to know that he was not discovered at his post, carrying out his advanced ideas with home-made grain and hay, and domestic hog and hominy. We get his views between "the sherry and the champagne," and mingled to some extent with cigar smoke and tooth picks. If the genial and accomplished President of the Calhoun Land Company had given us these views under the head of "Advice to Planters," or "How to make cotton pay," I could endorse them fully and unhesitatingly, and would put him down as a first-class contributor to the agricultural literature of the day. If he had told us that this season he intended to "absolutely require" his tenants to raise corn, grasses, poultry, hogs, cattle and mules, and to further require every family to produce a sufficient quantity of milk and butter for domestic use, and that he intended in future years to eliminate sardines and whisky from all his "accounts," I would exclaim, "Bravo, Captain!" and this next winter you will reap your reward. But when I am told through the columns of the "Great Consensations" that these things have actually been done during the past season in the State of Arkansas, I am sorry to say that—well, that I am not the correspondent of the N. Y. Sun.

By the way, what change is being made in the methods of our home planters? If there is any I have failed to see it in preparing for the coming crop. Indeed there appears to be no way to avoid the old ruts. If we travel the road at all we are forced to follow the beaten track. The Loan Agencies may show us a "new cut" in a year or two, and I really think they will. The commission merchants now and then give a fellow a start in a new direction, and they should be thanked for it.

RIP VAN WINKLE.

### The Railroad Proposition.

Editor Greenville Times:

I do not know that I can add much to the well known views of yourself and most of my fellow planters as to the expediency of the Railroad, to which our county is to be called on to vote a subsidy on the 7th prox.; but I feel constrained to add my voice to those of my fellow planters who are "crying" for a railroad.

First, as to the opposition of the Deer Creek planters. They are saying: "We are all right, but we do not care if you are; we will vote to defeat the subsidy, because we shall have to saddle ourselves with an additional tax before you can hope to enjoy the same benefits as ourselves. True they have been assured to us by the past unselfish action of the county land owners, but what is that to us?" I was living in the county at the time, and I do not recall any expression of such feeling toward

### The Tallahatchie and Yazoo Rivers.

Special to Times-Democrat.

Vicksburg, March 23.—The steamer DeSmet arrived at 4 p. m. from Belzonia. Her officers report the tidal wave out of the Tallahatchie and upper Yazoo as having reached Belzonia. Belzonia is eighty miles below Greenwood, and at the former place the water is fully up to its extreme height of last year. Below Belzonia the water is running over the banks and is rapidly inundating plantations in the back country.

Up to the time the DeSmet passed down the water had not filled up the swamps on either side of the river.

The town of Belzonia is composed of three small stores, situated on a high ridge, all of which is out, and bare shelter is offered for stock and people around. A great number of ridges between Yazoo City and Belzonia will not be affected by the present high water, and but few plantations from Yazoo City down will be altogether submerged. On many places at present there is fully a foot of water over the land, but no damage either to stock or property is reported. The water is now rapidly inundating the river side—Holly Mound, Burtona Cassellmas and Blue Rock. The wave has not fully reached Yazoo City as yet, but when the DeSmet left the river was rising at that place fully an inch an hour, and operations at the Yazoo City Oil Works had been suspended on account of the encroachment of the water.

Planters all along the Yazoo and Tallahatchie say the only damage they will sustain by the present flood will be the loss of some corn, which they had planted early. Their stock, property, labor, etc., are all in good condition.

### A Compliment to Benjamin.

The British Bar, Through Attorney-General James, Tender Him a Reception.

[London Times.]

The following letters will be read with pleasure, not only by the immediate friends of Mr. Benjamin, but also by all those who are acquainted with the circumstances under which that distinguished lawyer came to this country and the manner in which he was received into the ranks of the English bar:

New Court, Temple, February 28.

My Dear Benjamin—I have before me a document signed by almost every leading member of the English bar, the contents of which I am requested to convey to you. These old friends of yours are anxious that you should afford them collectively an opportunity of showing their friendship toward you, and they trust you will consent to be their guest on some occasion convenient to yourself.

I hope you will understand their reasons for desiring thus to meet you. We do not forget how you came some seventeen years ago a stranger among us. We offered you then no sincere welcome, and in return you have always during those years of your sojourn with us supported the honor and position of our profession, and have added much to the public estimation in which we are held.

And so now, when you leave us, your old associates are anxious to show and to tell you how much they valued the friendship they knew that even now they have not lost. I am, my dear Benjamin, yours most truly,

HENRY JAMES.

41 Avenue de Jena, Paris, March 1.

My Dear Attorney-General—I hardly know how to express the emotion with which I read your letter of yesterday. I trust I can appreciate, as it deserves, so flattering a testimonial to my professional career, emanating from the leading members of the English bar, and it is an honor of which I shall ever be proud. But I am more deeply touched by the assurance that I am personally held in such high regard by my brethren in the profession as to receive the assurance of their desire that I should still be considered by them all as a friend whose sympathies are to survive the severance of our professional relations. How heartily I respond to this desire, it surely is not necessary to express.

I have not the courage to decline the offer of which you have so kindly made yourself the intermediary. The state of my health, however, is such that it is impossible for me to name a date at which I could be present in London; but as the season advances and the weather becomes more propitious, I have strong hopes of being able to pass a few weeks in London, and if so, I will then appoint some day convenient to my friends for their collective farewell. I remain, my dear James, yours very sincerely,

J. P. BENJAMIN.

### The Mail Robbers' Confession.

Ozark, Arkansas, March 21.—The Johnson brothers, two of the Little Rock and Fort Smith train robbers now in jail, confessed their crimes. George Johnson said the party was organized at Mrs. Herndon's, but the plan was not entirely completed then, but it was the understanding that the train on the Little Rock and Fort Smith road was to be captured and robbed, and adjourned to meet Mulberry, where the plan of operations was formed in the woods near the town. Their plan was not to kill any one except in self-defense, and to avoid bloodshed unless absolutely necessary. The shooting was done under excitement, and was entirely unnecessary. Jim Herndon, who was captured near Huntsville, Madison county, this morning, fired the shot that killed Conductor Cain. The original plan was to capture Cain and rob the train. George Johnson is an ex-Federal soldier, now drawing a pension.

### "Back 'er up Here."

[New Mississippian.]

A well dressed man stood near the express office yesterday and two inches across the way made bets as to whether he would fetch up in the gutter or upon the sidewalk when he fell. A car approached and as it came abreast of him he waved his cane majestically. Jo Henry put the brake down hard, but the rear platform had almost reached Lenly's drug store before the car came to a standstill. The interloper looked at it a minute, straightened up, and with impressive dignity said, as he again waved his cane imperiously: "Back 'er up here."

Jo gave the bell strap an impatient jerk. As the car moved off an injured look overspread the countenance of the left one. He clasped a friendly telegraph pole and muttered:

"Never shoe such impudent asses as 'ese 'fernal monopolies gettin' to be. They ought to be (hic) supervised."

### The Meanest Man.

Louisville, March 24th.—About the meanest man yet heard from turns out to be a Kentuckian. The man who stole coppers from dead man's eyes has lost his reputation and will be famous no more. Unfortunately the name of his successor is not given, but should be, so that the world might know its champion wretch. When the Mayor of Louisville went down the river on his mission of mercy, he left \$300 at Uniontown, Kentucky. There were six destitute families in the town, and Mayor Jacob's instructions were to give each of them \$50. The money was left with Captain Damron. Yesterday the Mayor received a letter from Captain Damron, which said that a man near Uniontown had attached the \$50 given one of the families named Carr, for an old debt they owed him. The Carr family were in the last stages of suffering and distress. They needed immediate relief, and the mayor thought \$50 was little enough to keep them from starvation. The Mayor sent a telegram to Captain Damron, telling him that the money left in his hands was merely put there in trust, and for him not to give it to any one. Mr. Jacobs is justly indignant that the charity money should be attached.

### Churchill's Deficit.

Little Rock, March 24.—The Senate Committee nearly two years ago began the investigation of ex-State Treasurer Churchill, then Governor, who had served as Treasurer six years on three terms. The committee spent a year on the accounts and reported a deficit of \$114,000. When the Legislature met in January last, the House refused to accept the report, saying that the law required an investigation by a joint committee. Finally a joint committee was appointed and the work began anew. To-day the final report was made, which changes the deficit, according to the face of the books, to \$233,600.57. The difference in the two reports causes much comment. The Legislature adjourns Wednesday, but will order still brought, and will bring the matter at once into the courts.

The French Senate is considering a law to put down dueling. An encounter, no matter what the result, will render the principals liable to a year's imprisonment and a fine of 2000 francs. If a duelist succeeds in wounding his enemy, he may expect to be rewarded for his skill with two years' imprisonment and a fine, while if he is crowned with the full measure of success and kills his adversary, an extra year of imprisonment and an extra fine of 3000 francs will be the maximum punishment which the law will inflict upon him. The law will also be liable to a fine and imprisonment, and the law will fall with severity upon those who have been instrumental in bringing about a duel, and newspapers are forbidden to publish reports of duels.

England's wealthiest baronet is said to be Sir John Ramsden, of Byram, Yorkshire. His rental is computed at \$850,000 a year. He owns almost the whole of Huddersfield, the great manufacturing centre. The little bit he doesn't own was a very Naboth's vineyard to his father, who, according to popular tradition, once offered to its Quaker owner to cover it with sovereigns if he would sell it. "Edgewise, friend Ramsden?" quoth the Quaker: "In that case it is thine; otherwise all Huddersfield must still belong to thee and me." "Edgewise was rather more than the baronet could swallow."

### Lively Times in "Little Rhody."

Providence special to N. Y. Herald.]

The leaders of the Republican party have been in council to-night. They admit that the nomination of Mr. Sprague necessitates hard work and the expenditure of at least \$200,000. They are confident of victory and will not allow Mr. Sprague's record during the past 10 years or more to remain in the background. It will be a campaign of personalities on both sides. It is a mystery where the money for the Sprague campaign is coming from, but those in a position to know state that all the "legitimate" expenses will be provided for and that "experts" will be at the helm.

### Postal Changes.

On and after October 1, 1883, letter postage will be two cents for each half ounce or fractional part thereof between all points in the United States. The rate will then be the same on drop letters and all others. No changes have been made in rates on other classes of matter.

On and after July 1, 1883, you can obtain at any money order office postal notes in sums of \$5 and under by paying a fee of three cents. These postal notes will be payable to bearer without corresponding advice. They will be payable at any money order office within three months of the date of issue. After the lapse of that time the holder can obtain the par value only by applying to the Postoffice Department at Washington.

On and after July 1, 1883, you can obtain a postal money order for as large a sum as \$100. The present limit is \$50. The fees on and after that date for orders will be as follows:

Not exceeding \$10	8 cts
From \$10 to \$15	10 "
From 15 to 30	15 "
From 30 to 40	20 "
From 40 to 50	25 "
From 50 to 60	30 "
From 60 to 70	35 "
From 70 to 80	40 "
From 80 to 100	45 "

The postal notes will no doubt be found more convenient in one respect than the fractional paper currency was, since they can be obtained for any number of cents under \$5. There will also be less liability to loss by theft than there was where fractional notes were used for transmission through the mails, especially if the department uses judgment in prescribing the size and form of the notes, and in selecting the paper on which they are to be printed. On the other hand they will be less convenient, in that they can only be obtained at money order offices at a considerable sacrifice of time, especially in large cities. It will be observed that after the 1st of October the cost of sending any sum under \$5 postal note will be 5 cents—2 cents postage and 3 cents fee.

[St. Louis Democrat.]

The Mississippi commissioners have, within a few days carefully inspected the government works at Plum Point. What did they find? That they had been swept away "by the acre," as Ananias in Cincinnati declared when Congress was debating the river and harbor bill? That the commissioners' plans were futile, their theories groundless? Not at all. They found the completed works in good shape, undamaged, perfect. "Not a pile or any detail has been injured by the floods," is the language of the dispatch. Carry the news to the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette, the Chicago Tribune and the New York Times.

### Conkling and Platt.

[Times-Democrat.]

Roseoe Conkling and Tom Platt do not speak, and have not for two or three months. So Platt can no longer be called "Me, too." But one good turn deserves another. At present the Stalwart chiefs all talk in their tents. Neither Arthur, Platt, Conkling or Cornell communicate with each other.

Wagner was, involuntarily, considerably mixed up with the celebrated Von Arnim trial. Count Von Arnim was charged, among other things, with having compared Bismarck to Wagner in a published note, saying—ironically of course—that the Chancellor was "the greatest living personage, next to Wagner." This the prosecution argued was a deadly insult, "if being perfectly notorious that Wagner, the musician, was stark, staring mad."

### Greenville to New Orleans.

Stations	Miles
Sunny Side	11
Refuge	14
Glenora	20
Leola	34
Louisiana and Arkansas line	38
Skipwith	50
Marysville	53
Lake Providence	63
Branswick Pt. (foot of Levee Dist.)	74
Month of Yazoo	100
Vicksburg	139
Grand Gulf	173
St. Joe	188
Rodney	192
Natchez	244
Port Adams	299
Louisiana and Mississippi line	305
Red River	309
Bayou Sara	349
Port Hudson	355
Baton Rouge	374
Plaquemine	400
Donaldsonville	433
Convent	452
Bonnet Carre	478
New Orleans	511
Month of River	624

### Greenville to St. Louis.

Stations	Miles
Columbia	7
Galena	27
Arkansas City	38
Bolivar	62
Arkansas River	81
Rosedale	86
White River	89
Concordia	107
Sunderland (Head Levee Dist.)	136
Franks Point	164
Helena	182
Austin	202
Mississippi and Tenn. line	239
Memphis	261
Ark. and Missouri line	384
Tenn. and Kentucky line	435
New Madrid	441
Columbus	489
Cairo	504
Tower Rock	600
Barnacks	711
St. Louis	720

This list of distances is procured from the latest official surveys and maps.

### POSTAL DIRECTIONS.

All postage must be paid by stamp.

Letters in the United States per half ounce, 3 cents.

Drop letters, half ounce, 1 cent.

Registered letters, 10 cents and proper postage.

Pamphlets, newspapers, magazines, books, posters, etc., each 3 ounces or fraction, 1 cent.

Printed cards, blanks, seeds, merchandise, 1 cent per ounce.

All matter not at letter rates must be prepaid in full, wrapped so that it can be examined without destroying the wrapper.

❗ Liquids, poison, explosives and other dangerous matter excluded. Unpaid letters are sent to the Dead Letter office.

Letters paid forwarded, balance collected of the receiver.

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